

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-20 are pending in the application, with claim 1 and 11 being the independent claims. Claims 1 and 11 are sought to be amended. These amendments are not being made to overcome any patentability rejections made by the Examiner. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 6-10, 13, and 16-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102***

In the Office Action, claims 1-2, 4-5, 11-12, and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Adams, et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,163,862 (Adams). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Adams does not teach or suggest each and every element of amended independent claims 1 and 11. Adams relates to methods and apparatus for evaluating on-chip signals using an on-chip test circuit with an externally applied test signal. (Adams, col. 1, lines 8-10). In Adams, an on-chip signal to be evaluated (26) and an

externally generated reference signal (32a) are applied to inputs of a test circuit 30. (Adams, col. 2, lines 21-24). The on-chip signal is compared with the reference signal to produce an output, corresponding to a characteristic of the on-chip signal. (Adams, col. 2, lines 25-27). Nowhere does Adams teach or suggest that a "process-dependent parameter is measured within a process monitor portion of the integrated circuit and the at least one determined analog value is utilized to configure an operational portion of the integrated circuit to account for the measured process-dependent parameter," as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 11.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 11 are patentable over Adams. Claims 2, 4, and 5 depend from claim 1 and claims 12, 14, and 15 depend from claim 11. For at least the above reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 12, 14, and 15 are patentable over Adams. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.


### ***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is  
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Gordon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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